

tions during the latter half, and over all districts from the Rocky Mountains eastward during the last week. West of the Rocky Mountains the weather was moderately warm throughout the month, in fact portions of the far Northwest had the highest averages ever known in December and at local points in eastern Washington and western Montana the temperature was above normal every day in the month. Similar warmth appears to have existed in western Canada, where the monthly averages were far above normal, and reports from Alaska indicate the temperatures were frequently unseasonably high over much of that Territory, and later reports indicate that this condition has continued into the New Year. From the Great Plains eastward, and generally over the Southern States, the temperature averages were below normal save in portions of the North Atlantic States, the maritime portions of Canada, and extreme southern Florida, where the month averaged slightly warmer than normal. The mildest period of the month was mainly during the first week from the Mississippi Valley eastward, except in the Gulf States where the 13th and 14th were the warmest days, and about this time it was warm in the Southwest and portions of the far Northwest.

The lowest temperatures from the Rocky Mountains eastward were associated with the severe cold wave about the 26th to 28th, though at a few points in the lower Mississippi Valley the 23d was the coldest day. West of the Rocky Mountains the last two or three days were the coldest, though locally in New Mexico the 4th was the coldest day, and in California and Arizona the 20th and 21st were coldest.

PRECIPITATION

Considering the country as a whole, precipitation was deficient in nearly all the States, and even where in excess the margins above normal were small save in Florida and locally along the south Atlantic coast, where the excesses were mainly due to the heavy rains attending the tropical storm of the 1st and 2d. Over the middle and West Gulf States and thence northeast to the Ohio Valley the deficiency ranged from 1 to 3 inches and locally in this

area the monthly amounts were the least of record for December. In the far West precipitation was everywhere less than usually falls in December, save along the immediate coast districts of Washington and in one or two other small areas where the monthly falls were equal to or slightly more than normal. Over most of California and parts of Oregon and other near-by States the deficiencies were large.

SNOWFALL

Generally there was less snowfall than usually occurs in the first winter month, though in a few localities the amounts were comparatively large, notably in southeastern Wyoming and thence eastward over Nebraska to Iowa. High winds attending or following the snowfall in this area caused much drifting and interference with traffic, some roads being closed until the end of the month.

Although snowfall was mainly light it had a wide distribution, measurable amounts occurring in extreme southern Texas, where locally it was associated with sleet or ice storms, which caused considerable damage to overhead wires, trees, and shrubbery.

In the western mountain areas the snowfall was nearly everywhere light, particularly in the areas where much dependence is placed upon the early storage of snow for a supply of water during the coming summer. In California and nearby districts the snow was remarkably light and the depths on ground in the mountains were far less than usual at the end of December. In fact, many sections of the high Sierra, usually deeply covered, were entirely bare at the end of the month.

Due to continued moderate warmth, ice did not form of sufficient thickness for harvest in the large commercial districts until after the severe cold near the end of the month.

RELATIVE HUMIDITY

The relative amount of atmospheric moisture was largely deficient over practically all southern districts and generally over the Atlantic Coast States. From the Great Lakes and Ohio Valley westward to the Pacific there was mainly a slight excess.

SEVERE LOCAL HAIL AND WIND STORMS, DECEMBER, 1925

[This table contains such data as have been received concerning severe local storms that occurred during the month. A more complete statement will appear in the Annual Report of the Chief of Bureau]

Place	Date	Time	Width of path, yards	Loss of life	Value of property destroyed	Character of storm	Remarks	Authority
Florida.....	1						Recorded in November REVIEW as of Nov. 30-Dec. 1.	
Marshall, Ark. (near).....	3	11 p. m.	50		\$3,500	Tornado.....	Storm moved from southwest to northeast over path 5 miles long; dwellings and barns damaged.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
New Jersey coast.....	3			2		Continuation of tropical disturbance noted Nov. 30 over Florida.	Bulkheads, boardwalks, and other structures washed out or otherwise damaged by wind and waves; considerable loss and delay to navigation.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau; the Evening World (New York, N. Y.).
Yazoo City, Miss.....	4	5:10 a. m.		2	500,000	Violent wind, probably tornado.	About 100 houses destroyed and 25 persons injured.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Calloway, Marshall, Livingston, Lyon, and Caldwell Counties, Ky.	4	A. m.	50-1,320	2	75,000	Series of storms of tornadic character.	Many houses unroofed; several wrecked; extensive property damage at Murray, Kuttawa, and Princeton; considerable loss to telephone and telegraph companies.	Do.
Posey and Gibson Counties, Ind.	4	A. m.				High wind.....	A few buildings unroofed; some crop damage; several persons injured by flying glass.	Do.
Cairo, Ill.....	4					Wind and electrical.	Minor damage reported.	Do.
North-central counties, Mo..	4					High wind and snow.	Railway trains much behind schedule; public highways made impassable by drifted snow.	Do.
St. Paul, Minn., and vicinity.	4					High winds.....	Two miles of wires blown down; trains delayed.	Pioneer Press (St. Paul, Minn.).
Kansas City, Mo.....	13-14				7,800	Glaze.....	Much damage to wires, trees, shrubbery, and other exposed objects; 350 breaks in telephone wires; some delay to traffic.	Official, U. S. Weather Bureau.
Northern Iowa.....	24					Strong wind and snow.	Many highways temporarily blocked, resulting in some delay to traffic.	Do.
Western Lower Michigan and sections of Upper Michigan.	25-27					High winds and snow.	Snow drifted by winds caused blockade of roads; no damage reported.	Do.